

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows.

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A copyright protecting method of descrambling and scrambling an information signal inputted via an input path and outputting it via an output path, the input path and the output path included in a recording process and a reproducing process, the information signal corresponding to contents which are protected under copyright, including copy control information, and being scrambled by means of a type of scramble system, the copyright protecting method comprising:

a discriminating step of discriminating the type of the scramble system of the inputted information signal and the type of the copy control information of the inputted information signal;

a descramble system applying step of applying descramble systems to the inputted information signal; and

a scramble system applying step of applying a scramble system to the descrambled information signal and producing a scrambled output when a combination of the discriminated type of the scramble system and the discriminated type of the copy control information coincides with that included in a selected condition,

wherein the selected condition includes combinations of a plurality of types of scramble systems applicable to the information signal and a plurality of types of the copy control information to eliminate copying of the information signal via an unauthorized path, the copy control information including first copy control information indicating permission to copy the

information signal only once and second copy control information indicating prohibition of copying the information signal after the information signal is copied once,

wherein the descramble system applying step applies one type two types of the descramble system systems only to a scramble system of the information signal with the second first copy control information and applies the other types of the descramble systems to [[a]] scramble systems system of the information signal with the first second copy control information,

wherein in the recording process, the scramble system applying step applies only one scramble system to the descrambled information signal, and the only one scramble system is a scramble system which is applied to the case where recording information with the second copy control information is recorded onto the recording medium,

wherein, in the reproducing process, the scramble system applying step applies three different kinds of scramble systems to the information with the first copy control information recorded on the recording medium, to the information with the second copy information recorded on the recording medium, and to the information signal with the first copy control information outputted from a receiving apparatus, and

wherein the scramble system in the recording process is different from that in the reproducing process, and descramble system in the recording process is different from that in the reproducing process.

Claim 2 (Original): The copyright protecting method according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of the scramble systems include scramble processings each having different algorithms and corresponding descramble processings.

Claim 3 (Original): The copyright protecting method according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of the scramble systems include scramble processings each having different keys and corresponding descramble processings.

Claim 4 (Cancelled).

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A recording method of recording an information signal inputted via an input path on the recording medium according to copy control information, the information signal corresponding to contents which are to be recorded on the recording medium, including copy control information, and being scrambled by means of a type of scramble system after being descrambled by means of a type of descramble system, the recording method comprising:

a discriminating step of discriminating the type of the scramble system of the inputted information signal and the type of the copy control information of the inputted information signal;

a descramble system applying step of applying descramble systems to the inputted information signal;

a scramble system applying step of applying a scramble system to the descrambled information signal and producing a scrambled output when a combination of the discriminated type of the scramble system and the discriminated type of the copy control information coincides with that included in a selected condition; and

a recording step of recording the scrambled output on the recording medium,

wherein the selected condition includes combinations of a plurality of types of scramble systems applicable to the information signal and a plurality of types of the copy control information to eliminate copying of the information signal via an unauthorized path, the copy control information including first copy control information indicating permission to copy the information signal only once and second copy control information indicating prohibition of copying the information signal after the information signal is copied once,

wherein the descramble system applying step applies one type two types of the descramble systems only to a scramble system of the information signal with the second first copy control information and applies the other types of the descramble systems to [[a]] scramble systems system of the information signal with the first second copy control information, and

wherein the scramble system applying step applies only one scramble system to the descrambled information signal, and the only one scramble system is a scramble system which is applied to the case where recording information with the second copy control information is recorded onto the recording medium.

Claim 6 (Original): The recording method according to claim 5, wherein the scramble system applying step applies a scramble system different from that of the information signal recorded on a prerecorded disc to the inputted information signal when the discriminated type of the copy control information of the inputted information signal coincides with that of the inputted information signal recorded on the prerecorded disc and produces the scrambled output.

Claim 7 (Original): The recording method according to claim 6, wherein the copy control information permits only one copy of the information signal.

Claim 8-11 (Cancelled).

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A recording apparatus for recording an information signal inputted via an input path onto a recording medium according to copy control information, the information signal corresponding to contents which are to be recorded on the recording medium, including copy control information, and being scrambled by means of a type of scramble system after being descrambled by means of a type of descramble system, the recording apparatus comprising:

a discriminating device for discriminating the type of the scramble system of the inputted information signal and the type of the copy control information of the inputted information signal;

a descramble system applying device for applying descramble systems to the inputted information signal;

a scramble system applying device for applying a scramble system to the descrambled information signal and producing a scrambled output when a combination of the discriminated type of the scramble system and the discriminated type of the copy control information coincides with that included in a selected condition; and

a recording device for recording the scrambled output onto the recording medium, wherein the selected condition includes combinations of a plurality of types of scramble systems applicable to the information signal and a plurality of types of the copy control

information to eliminate copying of the information signal via an unauthorized path, the copy control information including first copy control information indicating permission to copy the information signal only once and second copy control information indicating prohibition of copying the information signal after the information signal is copied once,

wherein the descramble system applying device applies one type two types of the descramble system systems only to a scramble system of the information signal with the second first copy control information and applies the other types of the descramble systems to [[a]] scramble systems system of the information signal with the first second copy control information, and

wherein the scramble system applying device applies only one scramble system to the descrambled information signal, and the only one scramble system is a scramble system which is applied to the case where recording information with the second copy control information is recorded onto the recording medium.

Claim 13 (Original): The recording apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the scramble system applying device applies a scramble system different from that of the information signal recorded on a prerecorded disc to the inputted information signal when the discriminated type of the copy control information of the inputted information signal coincides with that of the inputted information signal recorded on the prerecorded disc and produces the scrambled output.

Claim 14 (Original): The recording apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the copy control information permits only one copy of the information signal corresponding to the contents.

Claims 15-18 (Cancelled).

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A reproducing method of reading an information signal from a recording medium and reproducing it according to copy control information, the information signal corresponding to contents which are protected under copyright, being recorded on the recording medium via an input path, including copy control information, and being scrambled by means of a type of scramble system after being descrambled by means of a type of descramble system, the reproducing method comprising:

a discriminating step of discriminating the type of the scramble system of the read information signal and the type of the copy control information of the read information signal;

a descramble system applying step of applying descramble systems to the inputted information signal;

a scramble system applying step of applying a scramble system to the descrambled information signal and producing a scrambled output when a combination of the discriminated type of the scramble system and the discriminated type of the copy control information coincides with that included in a selected condition; and

a reproducing step of reproducing the scrambled output,

wherein the selected condition includes combinations of a plurality of types of scramble systems applicable to the information signal and a plurality of types of the copy control

information to eliminate copying of the information signal via an unauthorized path, the copy control information including first copy control information indicating permission to copy the information signal only once and second copy control information indicating prohibition of copying the information signal after the information signal is copied once,

wherein the descramble system applying step applies one type two types of the descramble system systems only to a scramble system of the information signal with the second first copy control information and applies the other types of the descramble systems to [[a]] scramble systems system of the information signal with the first second copy control information,

wherein the scramble system applying step applies three different kinds of scramble systems to the information with the first copy control information recorded on the recording medium, to the information with the second copy information recorded on the recording medium, and to the information signal with the first copy control information outputted from a receiving apparatus,

wherein the scramble system of the inputted information signal is different from that of the scrambled output.

Claim 20-21 (Cancelled).

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A reproducing apparatus for reading an information signal from a recording medium and reproducing it according to copy control information, the information signal corresponding to contents which are protected under copyright, being recorded on the recording medium via an input path, including copy control information, and

being scrambled by means of a type of scramble system after being descrambled by means of a type of descramble system, the reproducing apparatus comprising:

a discriminating device for discriminating the type of the scramble system of the read information signal and the type of the copy control information of the read information signal;

a descramble system applying device for applying descramble systems to the inputted information signal;

a scramble system applying device for applying a scramble system to the read information signal and producing a scrambled output when a combination of the discriminated type of the scramble system and the discriminated type of the copy control information coincides with that included in a selected condition; and

a reproducing device for reproducing the scrambled output,

wherein the selected condition includes combinations of a plurality of types of scramble systems applicable to the information signal and a plurality of types of the copy control information to eliminate copying of the information signal via an unauthorized path, the copy control information including first copy control information indicating permission to copy the information signal only once and second copy control information indicating prohibition of copying the information signal after the information signal is copied once,

wherein the descramble system applying step applies one type two types of the descramble system systems only to a scramble system of the information signal with the second first copy control information and applies the other types of the descramble systems to [[a]] scramble systems system of the information signal with the first second copy control information,

wherein the scramble system applying step applies three different kinds of scramble systems to the information with the first copy control information recorded on the recording medium, to the information with the second copy information recorded on the recording medium, and to the information signal with the first copy control information outputted from a receiving apparatus, and

wherein the scramble system of the inputted information signal is different from that of the scrambled output.

Claim 23-24 (Cancelled).

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): A reproducing method of reading an information signal from a recording medium and reproducing it according to copy control information, the information signal corresponding to contents which are protected under copyright, being recorded on the recording medium via an input path, including copy control information, and being scrambled by means of a type of scramble system, the reproducing method comprising:

a discriminating step of discriminating the type of the scramble system of the read information signal and the type of the copy control information of the read information signal; and

a forbidding reproducing step of forbidding reproducing the read information signal when a combination of the discriminated type of the scramble system and the discriminated type of the copy control information does not coincide with that included in a selected condition,

wherein the selected condition includes combinations of a plurality of types of scramble systems applicable to the information signal and a plurality of types of the copy control information to eliminate copying of the information signal via an unauthorized path.

Claim 26 (Cancelled).

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The reproduction method according to claim 25, wherein the scramble system applied to the information signal when reproduction is executed from the recording medium to which copy control information for permitting only one copy of the information signal is given, is different from a scramble system, which is applied to the information signal when the reproduction is executed from the recording medium onto which the information signal with copy control information for forbidding copies after the information signal is copied once is recorded, and is also different from the scramble system, which is applied to the information signal with copy control information for permitting only one copy of the information signal outputted from a receiving apparatus.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): A reproducing apparatus for reading an information signal from a recording medium and reproducing it according to copy control information, the information signal corresponding to contents which are protected under copyright, being recorded on the recording medium via an input path, including copy control information, and being scrambled by means of a type of scramble system, the reproducing apparatus comprising:

a discriminating device for discriminating the type of the scramble system of the read information signal and the type of the copy control information of the read information signal; and

a forbidding reproducing device for forbidding reproducing the read information signal when a combination of the discriminated type of the scramble system and the discriminated type of the copy control information does not coincide with that included in a selected condition,

wherein the selected condition includes combinations of a plurality of types of scramble systems applicable to the information signal and a plurality of types of the copy control information to eliminate copying of the information signal via an unauthorized path.

Claim 29 (Cancelled).

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The reproduction apparatus according to claim 28, wherein the scramble system applied to the information signal when reproduction is executed from the recording medium to which copy control information for permitting only one copy of the information signal is given, is different from a scramble system, which is applied to the information signal when the reproduction is executed from the recording medium onto which the information signal with copy control information for forbidding copies after the information signal is copied once is recorded, and is also different from the scramble system, which is applied to the information signal with copy control information for permitting only one copy of the information signal outputted from a receiving apparatus.